## California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation





For informational Purposes May 23, 2011

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## **Actions CDCR Has Taken to Reduce Overcrowding**

**Inmates Placed Out of State:** CDCR has transferred inmates to out-of-state correctional facilities as authorized by AB 900, a historical correctional overhaul bill, enacted in May 2007. These temporary transfers have allowed prison officials to reduce the number of inmates sleeping in gymnasiums, dayrooms and other places not intended for housing. As of April 27, 2011, CDCR had 10,088 inmates housed in contracted out-of-state facilities.

**Parole Reform:** CDCR implemented SB 3x 18, which went into effect on Jan. 25, 2010, and authorizes the placement of eligible parolees (no serious or violent felony or sex-offender) onto Non-Revocable Parole (NRP). NRP removes low-level offenders from parole supervision, allowing CDCR to focus parole supervision on the most serious and violent parolees, reducing the number of parolees returned to custody for parole violations and thereby reducing the need for bed space in county jails and state prisons. Since Jan. 25, 2010, when NRP assignments began, 30,121 inmates have been placed on NRP. As of May 11, 2011, the entire parole population was 105,762 – 22,346 fewer than the all-time high of 128,108 on August 15, 2007.

**Increased Prison Bed Capacity:** CDCR has worked over the past several years to increase prison bed capacity, including the addition of health care and mental health beds. In May 2007, AB 900, historic correctional overhaul legislation, was enacted to address health care space deficiencies and overcrowding, and authorized \$7 billion for construction of state prison and local jail projects, including the California Health Facility in Stockton, which will provide medical and mental health treatment, with more than 1,722 beds. Several facilities are in the planning stage. Currently, more than 18,000 beds are planned to provide health care to thousands more.

**Credit Earning Program:** SB 3x 18 authorized CDCR to grant qualified inmates up to six weeks of credits in a 12-month calendar period by actively participating in and completing components of in-prison rehabilitation programs. These credits can reduce the amount of time the inmate spends in prison. During its first year of implementation (January 25, 2010-January 31, 2011), inmates statewide earned a total of 58,750 weeks of credits for reaching rehabilitation milestones.

Realignment to Place Lower-Level Offenders in Local Jurisdictions: On April 4, 2011, Governor Brown signed AB 109 to realign certain responsibilities for lower-level offenders, adult parolees and juvenile offenders from state to local jurisdictions. The Governor is working to secure constitutionally protected funding for realignment. Goveror Brown also signed AB 111, which gives counties additional flexibility to access funding to increase local jail capacity for the purpose of implementing AB 109.

**Reduction of Non-Traditional Beds:** As of May 2011, the total non-traditional bed count was 6,634 beds, which is 12,984 fewer than the high of 19,618 in August 2007. (Non-traditional beds are beds in spaces not designed for housing.)

**Inmate Population Reduction:** As of May 16, 2011, the total statewide inmate population, including felons and civil addicts, was 162,740 – 10,739 fewer than the high of 173,479 reached October 25, 2006. As of May 16, 2011, the total inmate population in California's 33 prisons – the population that would be affected by the Three-Judge Panel's order – was 143,435. The occupancy rate of prison beds based on design capacity is 179.6 percent – the lowest level since 1992.

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